

Extension *Cares...* for America's Children and Youth

THE NATIONAL EXTENSION "CARES" ...FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH INITIATIVE

Sub-Goal #3. Improve the ability of families to better support their children in out-of-home programs.

Objective #3A. Increase family members' knowledge of how to select quality programs and their search and decision-making behaviors.

Objective #3B. Increase the knowledge, skills and behaviors of family members enabling them to better support program goals at home.

Objective #3C. Increase the knowledge, skills and behaviors of family members enabling them to become more involved in the program.

Objective #4D. Increase the knowledge, skills and behaviors of family members enabling them to advocate for their children and for quality care settings.

Objective #4E. Increase the extent to which family members communicate with and engage in joint decision-making with program staff/administrators and support program goals.

Sub-Goal #4. Improve community and state supports for programs.

Objective #4A. Improve the ability of local communities and states to gather and use data for effective decision-making, program improvement and accountability.

Objective #4B. Increase knowledge of child and youth care policy options among decision makers, child, youth and family professionals, parents, and the general public.

Objective #4C. Increase the amount, breadth, and quality of training opportunities available to providers/staff.

Objective #4D. Increase community resources (e.g., facilities, transportation, funding, educational opportunities, volunteers, coalitions) and state supports for programs, program staff and families.

Objective #4E. Increase the number of programs and slots and the breadth of early care and education, school-age care and teen out-of-school options available in local communities.